Weldon (PA) Tanner Velazquez Vento ๋ Weller Tate Visclosky Tauzin White Taylor (MS) Volkmer Whitfield Vucanovich Wicker Tejeda Thompson Walker Williams Thornberry Walsh Wilson Thornton Wamp Wolf Thurman Ward Woolsev Tiahrt. Waters Wvnn Watt (NC) Torres Yates Young (AK) Traficant Watts (OK) Weldon (FL) Unton Zimmer

NAYS-4

Chenoweth Cooley Stockman Stump

NOT VOTING-78

Ackerman Metcalf Nadler Flake Foglietta Allard Baker (CA) Ford Ortiz Owens Packard Baker (LA) Frisa Barr Frost Gephardt Barton Pryce Bateman Gibbons Quillen Bliley Gordon Rangel Bonilla Hansen Richardson Browder Harman Brown (FL) Hastings (FL) Rohrabacher Brown (OH) Roukema Hayes Bryant (TX) Calvert Hunter Schaefer Inglis Schiff Chapman Istook Schumer Smith (N.J) Clyburn Jefferson Crapo Johnson, Sam Stenholm DeFazio Kennedy (RI) Taylor (NC) DeL.av Lantos Thomas Torkildsen Dellums Largent Doolittle Latham Torricelli Ehrlich Lincoln Towns McDade Engel Waxman Ensign McInnis Wise Young (FL) Fattah Meehan Menendez Zeliff

□ 1746

So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on roll-call No. 222, 223, and 224 I was unavoidably delayed by weather problems that affected airline flights from Dallas to Washington. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on all three votes.

PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS

Mr. JEFFERSON. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained when rollcall votes 222, 223, and 224 were taken. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea." I was detained because my plane was an hour late in taking off.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. BONILLA. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 222, 223 and 224, I was unavoidably detained by bad weather in Dallas on my connecting flight to Washington. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on all these votes.

TRIBUTE TO LSU TIGERS

(Mr. TAUZIN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. TAUZIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in this brief minute to allow all of us col-

lectively to share the joy and pride of all the LSU alumni across America with the extraordinary success of the LSU baseball program and the great success of Coach Skip Bertman, who has now brought the LSU Tigers the third championship of the College World Series this weekend.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to share with me the pride of this wonderful LSU team and this great coach who will now be the Olympic coach for the United States team in Atlanta. LSU. Go, Tigers.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair would ask Members not to doff hats in the Chamber.

TRIBUTE TO LSU TIGERS AND WOMEN'S TRACK TEAM

(Mr. McCRERY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. McCRERY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to add my congratulations to the LSU Tigers baseball team and say ditto to the words of my colleague, the gentleman from Louisiana [Mr. TAUZIN].

I would also like to remind everyone that just a few seeks before LSU's baseball triumph the women's track team from LSU also won the national championship for the umpteenth time in my lifetime. They have a great program there, so congratulations to the women's track team at LSU and Skip Bertman's baseball team.

Go, Tigers.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CALIFORNIA HOMEOWNER EARTHQUAKE PROTECTION ACT

(Mr. LEWIS of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I am today introducing the California Homeowner Earthquake Protection Act, legislation granting tax-exempt status on State authorities established for the purpose of providing earthquake insurance. As a 30-year insurance professional the chairman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee overseeing FEMA and Federal disaster assistance, I am concerned about an emerging insurance crisis in my State.

California Governor Pete Wilson is poised to sign a measure establishing the California Earthquake Authority [CEA], a unique publicly run and privately financed State program to supply earthquake insurance for millions of homeowners in our State. The California Homeowner Earthquake Protection Act will add viability to the CEA and will address a looming and potentially devasting crisis affecting every homeowner—the ability to purchase affordable earthquake insurance.

Under California State law, insurance companies that sell homeowners

coverage are required to offer earthquake protection as well. However, as a result of the 1994 Northridge earthquake which resulted in over \$1.2 billion in insured losses, many insurance companies are now moving out of the marketplace. In fact, of those companies that offered earthquake coverage before the Northridge earthquake, 95 percent no loner offer policies to homeowners. In the near term, over 1 million families may not have their homeowner coverage renewed.

The CEA is designed to provide \$10.5 billion in earthquake coverage funded by insurance carriers, reinsurers, investors, and policy holder assessments. The success of this innovative public-private partnership, which will provide immediate insurance relief for hundreds of thousands of California homeowners, condominium owners, mobile home owners, and renters, depends largely upon the IRS granting the CEA tax-free status. Tax-exempt status would allow the Authority's reserves to accumulate free of Federal income taxes. The IRS, which had promised a tax exemption to the CEA in February, withdrew its decision without warning or explanation in April. Legislation at the Federal level is now necessary to require the IRS to stand by its initial decision.

Continued uncertainty over the tax status of the CEA threatens to kill this public-private partnership. I urge my colleagues to join me, Gov. Pete Wilson, California Insurance Commissioner Chuck Quackenbush, and other in this bipartisan effort to protect California homeowners. We must act now to avert a financial crisis every bit as devastating as the Northridge earthquake itself.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

AFRICAN-AMERICAN CHURCH ARSONS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from North Carolinia [Mrs. CLAYTON] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, church buildings can be burned to the ground, but the spirit of the church will always stand.

The recent rash of church arsons in African-American communities throughout the United States leaves one wondering if anyplace is safe, if anyplace is secure, if anyplace is sacred.

But because those who have done these unthinkable acts have targeted the very places we hold most dear and most precious, there is no doubt in my mind that good will come from this evil

Even after a ravaging fire, something remains.

It may only be a blade of grass, but from that blade of grass will come a beautiful landscape.